

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action dated June 1, 2004, and the references cited therein. In response, applicant has canceled, without prejudice, claims 80-119 and added claims 120-152. Applicant believes that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration in light of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

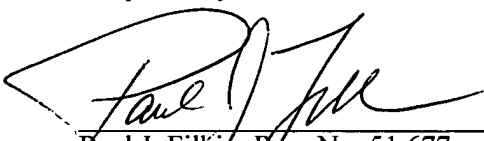
Claims 80-119 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§ 103 and 112 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. Des. 351,330 to Ming-Chang in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,964,192 to Marui and as being indefinite, respectively. In response, applicant has canceled those claims without prejudice. It is respectfully submitted that those rejections are now moot.

With respect to new claim 120, applicant wishes to point out that the phrase "average hand width of an assigned group of hands" is sufficiently clear, particularly when viewed in light of the specification. *See, e.g.*, pages 17-18 of the substitute specification for the instant application. Furthermore, the applied references in the instant Office Action do not teach or suggest a convex portion with a curvature forming a three-dimensional surface that bulges outwardly in two directions with maxima that are substantially perpendicular to each other relative to a Cartesian coordinate system orientated perpendicular to the longitudinal axis.

Conclusion

The application is considered to be in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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